AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

Please amend the last paragraph of page 2 & the first paragraph of page 3 of the specification as the followings:

SNP8 (SNP data base http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/SNP/index.html, Accession Number ss2978536) refers to a polymorphism in the NOD2/CARD15 gene resulting from the C → T exchange of the nucleotide in position 2209 (NM_022162). As a result, R702W is exchanged within the protein. SNP8 is located in chromosome 16 in chromosome position 50523959 (NOD2/CARD15 Gen - Exon 5). Hugot JP et al., Association of NOD2 leucine-rich repeat variants with susceptibility to Crohn's disease. Nature 2001, 411, 599–603.